



Deuce Four



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1st Battalion 24th Infantry

Fort Wainwright, Alaska

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Notes From the Commander

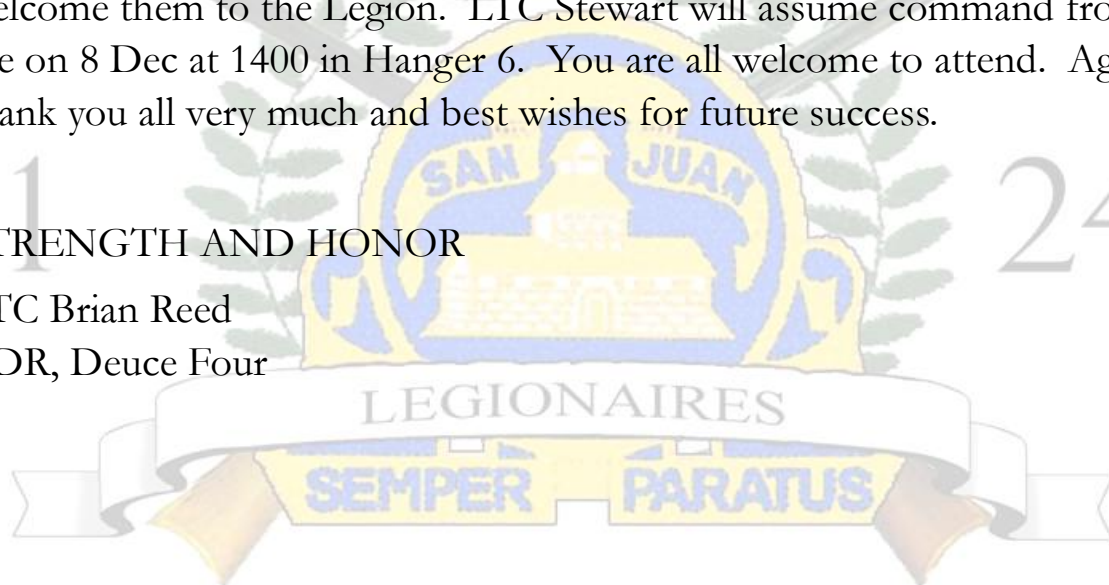
Dear Family and Friends of the Legion:

This is my last entry for the Battalion FRG Newsletter. Simply, I want to thank all of you for your service and support over the last 3 years. Kirsten and I have been blessed with the privilege of serving in Deuce Four. As the commander of this great Battalion, I have had exceptional leaders and Soldiers at all levels who have allowed us to be successful. Equally important are the great family members who kept us together through multiple training exercises and a year-long deployment to Iraq. LTC Jeff Stewart and his wife, Carrie, are great people and we are privileged to welcome them to the Legion. LTC Stewart will assume command from me on 8 Dec at 1400 in Hanger 6. You are all welcome to attend. Again, thank you all very much and best wishes for future success.

1 STRENGTH AND HONOR 24

LTC Brian Reed

CDR, Deuce Four



Headquarters and Headquarters Company

To the Families of HHC,

November is bringing numerous changes. From equipment being received and downloaded or turned in, to people arriving and leaving. The Soldiers of HHC have been busy organizing and distributing equipment, resetting their personal gear, catching up on family time and working hard overall. The month is packed with days off, which is great for family time. Unfortunately there is still a great deal of work and planning to be done. We have come far this month, but there is still a great deal to do. As always, I appreciate your understanding and support if I need to call in your spouse at some unpleasant time. Trust that I only do that if absolutely necessary. On the bright side, the new Commanding General is very determined to protect family time. This means your Soldier should be coming home around 3 PM on Fridays, and being called in on the weekends will be a rare occurrence. Understand that any time they are called in during the weekend will almost undoubtedly be returned to them with an equal amount of time off in the near future.

This month also brings an end to my command, and Sarah and I want to thank each of the supportive families that we have had the pleasure and honor of being a team with. Sarah and I knew the importance of a functional, team-focused FRG and I can say with confidence that we have done phenomenal. CPT Daniel Wells will be assuming command on 3 December 2009 at 2 PM in the Alert Holding Area (same location used when we came back from Iraq). If any of you would like to attend please send Sarah a quick note. Thank you again for making this command, and our FRG, such an outstanding success. Best wishes for the upcoming holidays and all that the Army has in store for you and your families.

Sincerely and Respectfully,

CPT Matthew D. Mackey
HHC, 1-24 IN
Commander

HHC Points of Contact

Company Commander:	CPT Mackey	matthew.mackey@us.army.mil
Company First Sergeant:	SFC GoForth	john.goforth@us.army.mil
FRG Leader:	Sarah Mackey	strwbryp@yahoo.com

Alpha Company ATTACK!

Dear Family and Friends of Attack Company,

This will be the last newsletter you receive from me as the Commander of Alpha Company. On 2 December 2009, at 1000hrs in the Fort Wainwright AHA, I will pass the guidon to CPT John Kump. CPT Kump is no stranger to the Legionaires, having served here just a few years ago as a Platoon Leader and Company Executive Officer in Bravo Company. I ask that you all continue to show him the support and dedication to this amazing Company that you have shown me over the past 21 months.

The missions we were given during our recent deployment were extremely challenging, and could only be accomplished by Soldiers who were focused on the task at hand and highly motivated. The Soldiers of Attack Company performed superbly, which is all the evidence I need to know that our FRG was back here accomplishing its mission, as well. By taking care of each other and each other's families, you were an integral part of our mission and an often overlooked combat-multiplier. Come to think of it, every time I briefed a Company Operations Order and I covered the portion called "Task Organization" (which lists the numbers and types of forces available to the Commander), I should have included the FRG and briefed their task and purpose to remind us of the efforts going back home. It might have sounded something like this..."FRG: Task – Provide moral, emotional, and physical support to Attack Company Families; Purpose – In order to prevent Attack Company combat forces from being overwhelmed by psychological distracters, home-sickness, and depression." It seems that good ideas always occur after the time when you really could have used them, but I will be sure to pass this one along to CPT Kump.

The mission ahead for Attack Company, at least



in the near term of the next 2 to 3 months, is going to be that of "resetting" the Company to begin training again in preparation for the next combat operation. This "reset" period is likely to involve some late hours of vehicle and weapon maintenance, long days of tedious paperwork, and a myriad of other last minute tasks which will spring up from time to time. We have already begun preparations to get a jump on these processes, and I have no doubt that Attack Company will accomplish its garrison mission in the same outstanding fashion that it did during the deployment. While the work weeks over the next few months do promise to be labor intensive, I will tell you that the Commanding General is dedicated to protecting Arctic Family Time and the weekends. Only in the direst of circumstances will Soldiers be asked to work past 1500hrs on Fridays or over the weekends.

It has been my distinct honor and privilege to be a part of Attack Company. My next duty assignment will be with the US Army Space and Missile Defense Command at Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Alabama. Since I will no longer be assigned in an Infantry unit, it is unlikely that I will cross paths with most of you in the foreseeable future, however, please remember that I am always just an e-mail away, and don't hesitate to contact me if I can be of any assistance, especially in the form of professional advice or recommendations. I wish all of you the best in your lives and careers!

Sincerely and with much respect,
MAJ Scott Jones
A Co., 1-24 IN
Commanding

A CO Points of Contact

Company Commander:	CPT Jones	matthew.s.jones@us.army.mil
Company First Sergeant:	1SG Long	sanford.e.long@us.army.mil
FRG Leader:	Karen Lewis	ACo124FRG@yahoo.com

Bravo Company Barbarians

Barbarian Friends and Family,

The Barbarians have been back in country for a month now and are getting back into the swing of Garrison Life. This month has been full of half days and four-day weekends. I can only hope that we have been taking the time given to us to be with our families again.

For many families, the time after a deployment can be a difficult one, as nearly 50% of B co will be moving on to new posts this winter. Along with the redeployment and decompression periods, we are balancing the upcoming reset and rebuilding of the unit, which can be very time intensive. As always, we'll strive to be more efficient with our time to maximize the personal time our soldiers and families need and deserve during this transition.

The families of not only B co, but also the civilian community in Fairbanks, came together this month to help out the SPC Sandoval and his family in their time of need. Shortly after our return, their home on post caught fire and was completely burned out. Theirs was a total loss, but all of the family made it out safely without injury. Support came instantly from neighbors and 1SG Black and remained strong throughout the weeks to

follow. Generous donations of clothing, bedding, money, and gifts cards came from soldiers and civilians alike. We must send out a special thank you to Mrs. Peggy Pollen who was able to pull together the support of local businesses after the News Miner ran an article about the fire. (It was much more flattering than their last article about 1st Platoon from Iraq!) When it really mattered, the soldiers and families of B Co came together to help out one of their own.

Since returning, we have had several social events, to include the Hails and Farewells, the Battalion Ball, and an Officer's Call. During Thanksgiving on the 26th, the Barbarian Officers will be serving lunch in the Dining Facility here on post from 1300-1330 if you do not feel like cooking. The Battalion will also be hosting a Holiday Party in December at the Physical Fitness Center by the PX.

Kristin and I will be changing command on the 2nd of December and passing the Company off to CPT Harbor and his wife. It has been an honor serving with your husbands and sons, and an experience that can never be replicated.

Take Care,
Barbarian 6

B CO Points of Contact

Company Commander:	CPT Harmon	jeffrey.harmon1@us.army.mil
Company First Sergeant:	1SG Black	william.black1@us.army.mil
FRG Leader:	Kristin Harmon	theharmons02@hotmail.com

Charlie Company Centurions

Dear Centurion Families,

It is great to be back home! To state the obvious, I'm pretty sure I speak for everyone, single and married Soldiers alike, when I say that we have all enjoyed being back in the United States, enjoying time with our families and friends.

As you've hopefully noticed, not too much has been going on during the time we've been back thus far. Up until now, the company focus has been primarily allowing as much family reintegration as possible. This is important because just as a Soldier has to maintain his body, mind, and equipment, he also has to maintain his family and relationships. And the hardships endured during a twelve month deployment are very deserving of some quality time after the deployment is over. I do hope the half day schedules and block leave was used to do exactly what you've wanted to do with your husband.

Now that we've returned from block leave, the work schedule is starting to fill up. However, we still have quite a few 3 and 4 day weekends over the next two months, and Christmas block leave is 18 Dec-10 Jan. As anything in the Army being subject to change, I do not anticipate any field time earlier than February. I will do my very best to keep you all updated on two main things in the future: when you can plan on your husband being gone and when you can plan on him being home. I have a pretty good feeling those are the two main priorities on an Army family's mind. There are no FRG events planned other than a tentative FRG meeting in December- there are still some details to work out on that, so I will put out a date and location for that in the coming weeks. It is my intent to reserve the evening hours for family time.

Additionally, Fridays there is what US Army Alaska calls "Arctic Family Time", which entails everyone to be gone from work by 3:00 pm. I am fully committed to enforcing that to the best of my ability and push people out of here at that time.

On the 5th of November, we had a battalion FRG recognition ceremony honoring those of you who graciously contributed your time and efforts. The following people received special recognition: Raya Shibilski, Tereion Crawford, Rebecca Dang, Dawn Hurley, Charity Goldner, Krista Meeks, Michelle Porreca, Angela Schramm, Melanie Terrill, Michelle Whittier, Brandy Sensmeier, Teresa Jones, and Stephanie Adams. I want to thank, again, these volunteers for their contributions and all of you who participated in making the Centurions' return home so memorable. I know it talking to the Soldiers that the food in the refrigerator and the beds with sheets on them were very much appreciated.

For those of you departing C Co, whether leaving the Army for civilian endeavors or just changing stations, I wish you the best of luck to your family in the future. Thank you for supporting your Soldier during the deployment; it means a lot, whether he admits it or not (Infantry guys are kinda tough like that).

For those of you staying in C Co, Melanie and I both look forward to interacting with you in the future. Feel free to contact me if there is anything you need at 254-290-5744. Thank you for everything you do.

Sincerely,
CPT Dale Terrill
Centurion 6

C CO Points of Contact

Company Commander:	CPT Terrill	cdale.terrill@us.army.mil
Company First Sergeant:	1SG Newsom	christopher.newsom@us.army.mil
FRG Leader:	Melanie Terrill	melanie.terrill@us.army.mil

Thank you to the Volunteers of 1-24 for all your many hours of work on behalf of your soldiers and families!

Volunteers of the Year

HEADQUARTERS & HEADQUARTERS COMPANY

Trish Kaer

ALPHA COMPANY

Genevieve Barbour

BRAVO COMPANY

Julie Green

CHARLIE COMPANY

Raya Shibilski

Businesses who offered support

Santinas Flowers and Gifts - Kyong Hollen

Fairbanks Memorial Hospital - Shelby Nelson

American Heart Association - Janet Bartels

Hampton Inn - Don Black

Northern Business Systems - Marguerita Gilbertson

Riverview Realty - Susan Rainey

Walmart - Tim Erickson

Fred Meyer - Adrian Agee

Safeway - Lee Darling

NTL Alaska, Inc. - Peggy Pollen



Walk to Iraq and Back

Congratulations to 1-24 Infantry Battalion for coming in first as the "Top Walker Team", accumulating 45,344 miles throughout the deployment! The following individuals contributed to the effort:

Adahmarie Chum, Andrea Ryker, Ashley Frenette, Dawn Hurley, Dee VanAcker, Jeanette Mitchell, Joy Martin, Julie Green, Karen Lewis, Kirsten Reed, Lindsey Parish, Lisa VanAcker, Maren Best, Maria Bretches, Mary Cheney, Melanie Terrill, Melinda Quick, Michelle Porreca, Michelle Whittier, Misty Hack, Natalea Andersen, Peri Lund, Rebecca Woolwine, Sharyn Moore, Sherilin Andersen, Steven VanAcker, Tanya Dalton, Tawny DeBolt and Trisha Kaer.

Deuce Four welcomes the following babies into our Legionaire Family:



*A son, Mason Dean,
Born to SPC Michael & Elizabeth Foster,
May 28, 2009, 8 lbs 15 oz, 21 inches*



*A daughter, Lorelei Annabell,
Born to SGT Brian and Torgie Steinhofel,
November 9, 2008. 7 lbs, 12.7 oz and 19 inches*